



1001 N. Central Avenue #695  
Phoenix, Arizona 85004  
Phone: (602) 372-1778  
Fax: (602) 372-0904  
TDD 602 372-0622

## **SUBSTANTIVE POLICY STATEMENT**

### **SPS-EH-2012-015**

A substantive policy statement (SPS) is advisory only. In accordance with A.R.S. §11-1601, SPS's do not include internal procedural documents that only affect internal procedures of the Maricopa Environmental Services Department and do not impose additional requirements or penalties on regulated parties or confidential information.

#### **1. SPS Subject:**

The purpose of this SPS is to clarify the permit requirements for obtaining a food service permit for competition food events and beverage booths at special events.

#### **2. Statutory Overview:**

Maricopa County Environmental Health Code (MCEHC)

#### **3. SPS:**

An Event can consist of several different types of permits and involve various situations including Competition Food Events.

#### **Competition Food Events** (defined in MCEHC)

A single permit may be issued for a competition event that is approved by this Department that meets the Competition Food Event Criteria. The sponsoring agency is required to obtain the Temporary Food Establishment Permit for the Competition and assumes all responsibility for the competitors meeting the requirements for a Temporary Food Establishment, including ensuring that vendors limit their food service to only complimentary 2-ounce samples.

Competition food types include similar food items that require the same or similar cooking temperatures such as:

- A. BBQ Chicken Competition
- B. BBQ Beef Competition
- C. Chili Competition

Any vendor wishing to dispense greater than 2-ounce complimentary samples must obtain their own Temporary Food Establishment permit.

**Commercially Processed Beverage Sales/Sampling:**

No permit is required for commercially processed beverage sampling/sales when:

- A. Pouring non-TCS drinks including, but not limited to: beer, wine, soda, or juice from a commercial container (e.g. bottle, keg, can, or beer truck) into a disposable cup;
- B. Providing non-TCS drinks in a can or bottle (commercial container) even if the lid or top has been opened for the customer.

A permit will be required from the Department if ice, cut fruit or garnishes including, but not limited to: lemon and lime wedges, cut vegetables, cut jalapeno, and mint are added to the drink, or if reusable cups are used.

**4. SPS Effective Date:**

July 1, 2012

**5. SPS New Document/Revision Statement:**

SPS-EH-2012-015 has been revised as of May 14, 2015.

**6. Contact Us:**

For questions or comments regarding this SPS or to obtain a copy of this document, please contact the Department Records Custodian at the address and/or phone number above.